

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SOURCE:

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INTRODUCTION

1. Krasnogorsk is located about 25 km northwest of Moscow. It has a population of about 35,000, who live in the city and work at the factory there. Other workers at this factory live in nearby villages and travel to Krasnogorsk on foot, by bicycle, or by train. In the center of the city are four- and five-story, brick-stucco apartment buildings, built in the early 1930's. These are located about 200 meters from the factory. Around the center of the city are two-story wooden houses consisting of several eight-apartment dwellings. The Germans in Krasnogorsk lived in Brushatti (phonetic), one of the communities made up of wooden houses. I heard that one of these wooden houses which was built of wood and stone was used as an Anti-fa school during the war. On the edge of town there were private houses of stone or wood, or Finnish prefabricated houses, on the style of the houses built for the USSR by Finland as reparations.

FOOD SUPPLY

2. In 1946 and 1947 food was scarce and variety limited. Improvement in supply began in 1949 and continued thereafter. Moscow markets always had better selections than did Krasnogorsk. Porridge and wet, black bread were staples; bread usually was made from rye flour or potatoes and flour. Cabbage grew everywhere and was the vegetable eaten most.

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Other vegetables sold were onions, lettuce, carrots, and; rarely, peas.

3. Milk usually was purchased on the market place from people who owned cows. Milk was not rationed, but bottled milk was available only in Moscow. The market had an official milk control station where milk was examined in regard to flavor and appearance only. None of the milk was pasteurized.
4. Fish sold on the market included perch, catfish, carp, and frozen filets from salt water regions. Caviar also was available. Meat was sold on the market by private merchants who had to have their meat stamped officially in the market place. Beef, pork, lamb, and poultry were available in small quantities.
5. Sunflower oil, tallow, and margarine were used as fats. Margarine was available in two varieties - one for cooking and another for the table. Olive oil and pork fat sometimes were on sale on the market in Moscow.
6. Food stores paid little attention to cleanliness. Food was sold at a gastronom, or delicatessen, and the magazin, or State store, where food was cheaper than at the gastronom. In 1950, the latter installed a refrigerator, but otherwise food refrigerators were available only in Moscow.
7. Restaurants in Krasnogorsk included a fabrika-kukhnya opposite the factory, which was used by the workers for midday meals. There were three tearooms in the city which also served as snack bars; food was better and more expensive in these tearooms than in the factory restaurant.
8. Food sanitation laws existed and food inspection was carried out, though with very little strictness.

DISEASES

9. Dysentery was a common ailment during the summer, and at this time the hospital beds were filled with children suffering from this disease. The only other serious problem was tuberculosis. The city maintained a special tuberculosis station in the city to care for tuberculosis cases. I know of no epidemics except scarlet fever which occurred during my stay in Krasnogorsk.
10. Immunization against typhoid fever was carried out once or twice on adults. Children were inoculated against diphtheria and small-pox.¹
11. I have no knowledge of animal diseases in the area. I recall that there was a campaign to destroy stray dogs, which I believe was precipitated by a fear of rabies. I have no information on the incidence of anthrax, brucellosis, or bovine tuberculosis.

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MEDICAL FACILITIES

12. Krasnogorsk had a polyclinic located across the street from the factory in the center of town. This was in a two-story, L-shaped building. The main section was 30 meters long and 15 meters wide; the smaller section was 25 meters long and 10 meters wide. The staff consisted of about twelve specialists, including internists, ophthalmologists, and dentists; occasionally specialists came from Moscow to lend expert assistance.
13. The hospital in Krasnogorsk was located about 400 meters from the factory in a three-story building. Included in the hospital area were a two-story building, and a maternity home and clinic. The three-story building had an infectious diseases section on the ground floor, and internal medical sections in the upper floors. The two-story building housed a gynecology section on the ground floor and a surgical section on the upper floor. The maternity home and clinic were just across the street from the main hospital buildings. Dwellings for nurses and doctors were next to the main hospital. About 200 beds were available at the hospital, which was always crowded. Patients were often required to lie on the floor. In a nearby village, Novo-Nikolskoye, a hospital was available for reconvalescing patients, or for patients who would never recover. Physicians at the hospital were always excessively over-burdened with work, and the hospital serviced the surrounding area as well as the city of Krasnogorsk. I noticed that a large percentage of the Soviet physicians was of Jewish extraction.
14. The factory had a dispensary or medpunkt in three rooms. The staff consisted of one doctor and two nurses, and a physician from the polyclinic was available for consultation.
15. The German section had a medpunkt in a one-room dispensary staffed by a feldsher (medical assistant). This feldsher was expected to render medical assistance at once to the German patients and refer them, if necessary, to the polyclinic.
16. There was a sanatorium nearby in Arkhangelskoye, known as "Voyenny Sanatoriya No. 1", where high-ranking army officers spent rest periods. It was located on the grounds of an old castle now used as a museum and visited by Moscow residents.
17. Serious cases were usually sent from the hospital to Moscow to a special clinic responsible for cases from the Krasnogorsk area. This clinic was called Moniki (each letter of this word is an abbreviation for the Russian title, Moscow Oblast Scientific Research Clinic) and was a central clinic for special cases not cared for in the home area. It was located near the Moscow Botanical Garden.

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SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

18. The physician of the factory medpunkt was required to take care of the general medical requirements of the workers. He administered typhoid immunizations and examined workers in dangerous jobs, e.g., chemists, grinders, lacquer-painters, to ensure their safety. Such workers received milk and vitamin tablet rations. A safety inspector and organization existed to prevent accidents in the factory. Safety regulations existed but I have no information on their operation.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES

19. Sulfa drugs of several kinds, e.g., disulfanilamide, streptocide, and prontosil, were available except during irregular periods of shortage. Penicillin was available. All drugs were sold in a pharmacy apart from the polyclinic and hospital. I have no information on Medical equipment except that X-ray film and dental supplies were in short supply at various intervals.

BW and CW

20. I heard nothing of BW or CW offense or defense.

Medical Training

21. Medical personnel in Krasnogorsk were able to attend training courses in Moscow, but I have no information on the nature of these courses. I have no information on the existence of a blood donor service in Krasnogorsk or Moscow.
22. I observed no excessive drunkenness, nor did I hear of cases of mental illnesses among the Soviets.
23. The city had a central water supply system which included a water tower and pump works. Krasnogorsk was located on elevated ground about three kilometers from the descent into the Moscow valley region. I believe the water source was ground water, but it is also possible that it was pumped from Rublevo, about 8 kilometers away, where there was a large water works. I do not think the Moscow River was used as the source of drinking water for the Krasnogorsk system.
24. All of the city's dwellings were included in the central system. Some of the homes on the edge of the city, and the Finnish homes, had private wells.
25. The city water was apparently pure, and I do not know if it was chlorinated. It was expected that it would be boiled before use but I do not think this was done. The water supply was adequate for normal needs, but was occasionally short in summer. There was a place in the city where water quality was checked, but I do not know its location. In 1950 or 1951 a campaign to disinfect the water system was inaugurated, and water samples were collected for analysis. The laboratory used might have been in the hospital where laboratory tests, including bacteriology, were done.

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Waste Disposal

26. The city had a sewage disposal system which served the city center and apartment house areas. The Finnish homes used outdoor latrines. I do not know how the sewage was discharged. I saw no disposal works. It is possible that the sewage was discharged into the Moscow River. I do not believe night soil was used as fertilizer.
27. Garbage cans were set up before the houses and emptied by private citizens every fourteen days into pits near the city. I do not know what official garbage disposal system existed.

Animals

28. There were no mosquitoes in the area. The number of flies was horrible. Some lice and bugs were also observed. In 1948, an effort was put forth by city officials to combat these insects and a DDT-like agent was used. It was not very effective.
29. Snakes were seen in the area, but none were poisonous. Only an average number of rats and mice was present in the city. Wild animals were rare. Occasionally wolves, rabbits, elk, and foxes were observed, but very infrequently. Cats and dogs were common, but I do not recall having seen many stray dogs.

Plants

30. Poisonous mushrooms grew in the area, but I do not recall that there were unusual poisonous plants in the surrounding countryside.

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1. Comment. Since typhoid immunization consists of a series of inoculations, source may refer to one immunization and/or a booster inoculation. Smallpox immunization consists of vaccination, not inoculation.

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